PUBLIC AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER

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From left: Marina Jeger, Ambassador Bradtke, Mislav Mataija

Fulbright scholars meet Ambassador

Ambassador Robert Bradtke met with Marina Jeger of the Osijek's Economics Faculty, and Mislav Mataija of the Zagreb Law School, recipients of the Fulbright for the Future Scholarships in the United States.

Jeger will spend two years at the Kelley School of Business, Indiana University, in an MBA program, and Mataija will study for an LLM degree at Columbia University's Law School. Their scholarships were made possible by generous donations from nine companies.

Three US journalists, professors train Croatian students, professionals

As part of the Embassy's media training program, Sherry Ricchiardi, Associate Professor of Journalism, Indiana University, Frank Folwell, former Deputy Managing Editor at USA TODAY and photography and graphics instructor, visited Croatia May 5-17, and Lois Bianchi, former professor of the City University of New York, Queens, visited Croatia April 12-May 11.

Ricchiardi and Folwell spent May 5-8 with journalism students at the University of Dubrovnik, conducting a workshop on investigative journalism. They also held workshops May 12-13 with reporters, editors and



Sherry Ricchiardi speaks to journalists at Slobodno Dalmacija in Split.

photographers from the national daily "Slobodna Dalmacija" in Split. Ricchiardi focused on new media, trends and the future of journalism and Folwell focused mostly on media ethics, especially the use of photos and graphics to illustrate stories. Following the two-day program in Split, Ricchiardi and Folwell participated in a three-day training program with journalism students in Zagreb.

American Corner Zadar, YATA host NATO roundtable for students

The American Corner Zadar and Croatian Youth Atlantic Treaty Association (YATA) organized a roundtable, "The Future of Croatia in the NATO Alliance," in Zadar, May 15. YATA members - all Political Science students - talked about the new and changing role of NATO and briefly explained Croatia's road to NATO accession. Robert Mikac, former commander of Croatian 5th contingent in ISAF's mission to Afghanistan, spoke about his experiences and Croatia's role in bringing stability and peace to this war-affected country. The event aimed to raise awareness of both benefits and obligations of Croatia's NATO membership for the student population.



Domagoj Koren, YATA, speaks to group.

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PRESS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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EMBASSY TOURS AND VISITS

Student groups from elementary and high schools and universities in Croatia visit the U.S. Embassy in Zagreb to learn about the functions of the Embassy and its staff.

During the visits, American officers and the Embassy's Croatian staff speak with the students about Croatian-U.S. relations and current events that affect both countries.

A representative from the Public Affairs section gives an overview of the Embassy's role in the U.S. Government and the selection and training process for U.S. diplomats. Students can also speak with Ameri-



Law students from the University of Zagreb, with Ambassador Bradtke (center), Political Officer Rick Holtzapple (left).

can officers, including the Deputy Chief of Mission and those from the Political and Economic sections, the Regional Security Officer and a U.S. Marine. As part of the tour, students get a behind the scenes look at the Consular Section.

Students are encouraged to ask questions about the life of a U.S. diplomat in Croatia and abroad, working in the Embassy and current events.

For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact Masa Crnjakovic, outreach coordinator.

ČAKOVEC PUPILS SEE HOW EMBASSY WORKS

Eighteen pupils (ages 11-15) and their teacher, traveled from the elementary school in Čakovec for a tour of the U.S. Embassy Zagreb. The tour, organized by the Information Resource Center (IRC), began with a visit to the IRC and a mini lesson on U.S. Public Diplomacy. The group was introduced to daily work at the embassy, including that of the executive office, consular, political, economic and public affairs sections, facility maintenance and USAID. The tour concluded with the group meeting Marlene Nice, public affairs



Public Affairs Officer Marlene Nice (left) speaks to **Čakovec students**

officer, who spoke about being a US diplomat. The tour gave the group a positive view of how Americans, in partnership with local staff, work and live in Croatia and other countries and how they help Croatia become a more democratic and developed country.



Ann Stone, left, speaks with reporter

POLITICAL CONSULTANT VISITS ZAGREB

Ann Stone, political consultant and entrepreneur, visited Zagreb May 31-June 3, under the auspices of the Embassy Speaker Program. During two intensive program days, Ms. Stone addressed students and faculty at the Zagreb Law School and Faculty of Political Science and representatives of Croatian media, PA specialists of various political parties, prominent women in government, businesses, and NGOs. She also gave an interview for Jutarnji list daily. Ms. Stone explained the latest developments in the 2008 U.S. presidential campaign, discussed candidates of both parties and the importance of women's participation in political life.

INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER (IRC)

IRC RESOURCES

The Information Resource Center (IRC) provides information and reference services by telephone, fax, and <u>e-mail</u>, and is open by appointment for specialists with more extensive research projects. The IRC is located at the U.S. Embassy.



Library and Information Service. The IRC has access to on-line databases and also houses a small collection of reference materials, dozens of U.S. magazines and four stand-alone computers.

Book Programs. The IRC supports translations of books written by U.S. author and promotion of those books in Croatia. The IRC also manages donations of books and technical equipment, working with wish lists from libraries, academic institutions and schools.

Selective Distribution of Information. The IRC provides information on a variety of subjects, including art, human trafficking, judicial, military and economic. You can sign up with the IRC to be on a subject-specific mailing list.

Speaker Program. The IRC brings American diplomats to libraries to give lectures on issues in which they specialize. Also American Information Specialists lecture on information science and library science for the library community.

Visitor programs. Croatian librarians explore the wide variety of U.S. libraries and the latest information technology used in the U.S.

EMBASSY HOSTS DIGITAL VIDEO CONFERENCES

The U.S. Embassy can arrange Digital Video Conferences (DVC) for your group with speakers and experts from the United Sates.

Recently DVCs have been arranged at the School of Veterinary Medicine with Dr. Hubert Whiteley, dean of the College of Veterinary Science at the University of Illinois. Students from an elementary school in Velika Gorica learned about Native Americans from Jimmy Locklear of the National Museum of American Indians in Washington DC. The Embassy also hosted DVCs on the environment dealing with issues of climate change, energy security and alternative renewable energy.

For more information about organizing a DVC, contact Assistant Public Affairs Officer Ken Wetzel or the Embassy's Information Resource Center (IRC).



DVC at the American Corner, Zagreb



Jasna Kovacevic and Ambassador Bradtke

INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM PARTICIPANT MEETS AMBASSADOR BRADTKE

Ambassador Robert A. Bradtke met Jasna Kovacevic, head librarian at Bogdan Ogrizovic Library in Zagreb to discuss her participation in the Embassy's International Visitor Program. Ms. Kovacevic will join librarians from around the world for the multi regional program, American Libraries. Ms. Kovacevic will travel around the U.S. including stops in Washington DC, New York and California for the annual American Library Association Conference.

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AMERICAN CORNERS

American Corner Zadar

Zadar Public Library, Stjepana Radica 11b http://www.gkzd.hr/ak.php

American Corner Rijeka Rijeka University

Library, Dolac 1

http://www.svkri.hr/portal/index _php?option=com_content&tas k=category§ionid=8&id=29 &Itemid=248

American Corner Osijek

Osijek Public and University Library, Europska Avenija 24 http://www.gskos.hr/ AC page coming soon.

American Corner Zagreb

Bogdan OgrizoviĆ
Public Library, Zagreb
http://www.kgz.hr/knjizbo/defau
lt.asp

AC page coming soon.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rijeka:

June: Presidents of the U.S.A. – lecture, exhibit and film

July: (American) English as a Global Language - lecture -

For more information, please contact the American Corners Coordinators at the libraries listed above.

American Corner Zadar hosts jazz lecture

In cooperation with the American Corner and elementary school Krune Krstica in Zadar, Marija Cvetnic Kopljar, Embassy IRC Assistant, and Milko Belevski, Zadar's AC Coordinator, organized a lecture on jazz.

Davor Hrvoj, jazz journalist, spoke on the development and styles of American jazz. The lecture was incorporated into the school program, "Popular Music." Fifty teenagers (ages 14-15) and three teachers learned about the best



Davor Hrvoj lectures music students in Zadar

American jazz icons via DVDs. The event helped students recognize the cultural value of jazz that spread from New Orleans throughout the US and the world -- including Croatia, where jazz has become increasingly popular among young listeners.

Storytime at American Corner, Zagreb

The Public Affairs section of the organized a tour through the American Corner Zagreb for 20 pupils from the elementary school Dobrisa Cesaric, Zagreb.

AC Coordinator Marina Loncar showed the library's collection of American books for children. PAO Ken Wetzel greeted the children in Croatian. His wife, teacher Gael Reilly, and high school student Lucija Kvaternik from the American International School of Zagreb read Dr. Seuss' "The Cat in the Hat."



Back, from left: Sasa Gorjanec, Gael Reilly, Lucija Kvaternik and Ken Wetzel speak, read to pupils.

The event ended with a book donation from the Sabre Foundation to the school's library, including a book for each pupil. The event will help to encourage children to use the American Corner for reading and programs.

American Citizens Information Nights held in Zadar, Rijeka and Osijek

American Citizens Services staff visited the American Corners in libraries in Zadar, May 27, Rijeka, May 28, and Osijek, June 5, to meet with American citizens living in and around those cities. Marlene Nice, Public Affairs Officer and Vice Consul, Martina Delija, Federal Benefits Unit regional assistant, and Verica Haramincic, senior assistant for American citizen services, provided information on voter registration, U.S. elections, passport applications and citizenship issues, as well as Social Security, Veterans Affairs, civil service and other benefits.

About 100 people attended the meeting in Zadar, about 50 stopped by in Rijeka and 30 people attended the information night in Osijek.



Verica Haramincic, left, and Marlene Nice review a passport application